

**PSYS 350 - 700**  
**Social Psychology**  
**Winter 2024 - WEB**

**Instructor:** Kelli Truelove, M.Ed, LPCC

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**Prerequisite:** Completed 21 hours of Foundations and Explorations courses, or sophomore standing.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES**

This course provides a detailed overview of classic and contemporary topics in social psychology. Social psychology explores human behavior as it occurs in a social context. It is the scientific study of how people's thoughts, feelings, and behavior are influenced by the actual, imagined, or implied presence of other people (Allport, 1985). It involves understanding how people influence, and are influenced by, others around them. It is my hope that at the completion of this class you will have a greater awareness of how your own actions and the actions of those around you are influenced by social factors.

Lectures and readings emphasize findings from research on topics such as conformity to social norms, attitudes and persuasion, stereotyping and prejudice, social judgment and person perception, aggression and social conflict, altruism, interpersonal attraction, and group influence.

This course addresses the following general education goals and objectives:

- 1 Learn the major research methods used by social psychologists
- 2 Learn and describe basic processes and common errors in perception of self and others
- 3 Learn and describe how culture influences differences in perception and social behavior
- 4 Describe the psychological aspects of basic social problems such as prejudice, discrimination, and aggression as well as potential solutions to these problems
- 5 Describe how differences pertaining to race, gender, social class, and other social groupings influence social behavior and perception

**READINGS**

Required text:

- This course participates in The WKU Store's First Day Access program. This program is designed to provide immediate access to required materials for all students at prices cheaper than any other option. The book is:

Gilovich, T., Keltner, D., Chen, S., & Nisbett, R. E. (2015). *Social Psychology*, 6th ed., New York. W. W. Norton & Company.

## GRADING

Your grade is based on the cumulative points you earn from the assignments:

Exams (2 x 150 points each)	300
InQuizitive (14 x 20 points each)	280
Chapter Summaries (12 x 25 points each)	300
Paper	120

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Total: **1000 total points**

A = 900+ points   B = 800-899 points   C = 700 – 799 points   D = 600 – 699 points   F = 599 and below

## CLASS POLICIES

### Late Policy

Due to the accelerated nature of the course, late assignments **will not accepted** without a documented emergency.

**Accommodations for Disabilities:** “In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at [sarc.connect@wku.edu](mailto:sarc.connect@wku.edu). Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.”

**Academic Integrity:** Cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic misconduct are unacceptable and will result in appropriate disciplinary action. Students must clearly cite any sources consulted—not only for quoted phrases but also for ideas and information that are not common knowledge. Do not use notes or copy off others during exams, plagiarizing someone else’s work, or buy assignments online. All writing assignments will be run through software to ensure no part of the assignment was plagiarized. Cheating, plagiarism, or other forms of academic misconduct will result in an F in the course.

**Writing Center:** Students are encouraged to visit the university Writing Center with drafts of their written assignments. This will help improve your grade on your final paper.

### **Student Resources:**

Students can view the following link for resources concerning university policies and tools for students (i.e. Title IX statement, Student Code of Conduct handbook, university calendar, counseling and testing services, literacy center, etc.): [Academic Affairs Syllabus Information](#)

College can be a difficult time for many. If you or another WKU student you know is struggling with a mental health issue or you need someone to talk to, please call and schedule an appointment with the WKU Counseling & Testing Center at 270-745-3159 or visit their website at [www.wku.edu/heretohelp/](http://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/). They have trained mental health professionals who can help.

## **COVID Statement**

All students are strongly encouraged to [get the COVID-19 vaccine](#). In accordance with WKU policy, all students must call the WKU COVID-19 Assistance Line at 270-745-2019 within 4 hours of testing positive for COVID-19 or being identified as a close contact to someone who has tested positive. The COVID Assistance Line is available to answer questions regarding any COVID-19 related issue. This guidance is subject to change based on requirements set forth by federal, state, and local public health entities. Please refer to the Healthy on the Hill website for the most current information. [www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill](http://www.wku.edu/healthyonthehill)

## **ASSIGNMENT DETAILS**

- a.) **Exams.** There will be 2 exams for this course. Each exam will contain multiple choice, fill in the blank, and/or short answer questions.
- b.) **InQuizitive assignments:** There will be online assignments for each chapter discussed through the platform “InQuizitive”, which is an adaptive learning tool that will help you learn and review the course material. The assignment is automatically graded based on the percentage of completion in relation to the total points required. Completing these assignments will be excellent preparation for the exams, and will comprise a significant portion of your overall grade. There will be an InQuizitive online assignment for each chapter. Please see the schedule below for the exact due dates for each assignment.

Access to Inquizitive is automatically provided to you free-of-charge via the First Day access feature. To open InQuizitive, go to our Blackboard website, and click on the “InQuizitive Link” on the left side of the page. If you miss an Inquizitive assignment and want to still review the material or you would like to go back and complete an assignment as review for the test, you will be able to access each activity at any time, however your grade will not be recorded for the assignment if the deadline has already passed.

**You can answer as many questions as needed to reach 100% (full points) for each assignment, however there is a minimum number of questions that must be answered.**

### **c.) Chapter Summary**

Each chapter summary should be 1 to 2 pages in length and summarize the main points of the chapter. Your work will be turned in through a plagiarism checker/database. An example summary is provided in Blackboard.

- d.) **Paper:** Paper: In 2 pages or less, please describe **ONE** incident relevant to social psychology that you personally experienced or witnessed.

After describing the incident you either witnessed or experienced, explain how four (4) of the course concepts you were exposed to (either in lecture or the book) have helped you better understand the social psychology of this incident. Make sure to clearly and **thoroughly** explain each concept before describing how it has helped your understanding of social psychology. Underline each concept. Cite your explanations of concepts using the format (Text, p. XX), or (Lecture, ppt #). Please do not attach a Title Page, Bibliography or Reference Page. This is unnecessary. Instead of quoting, paraphrase. For tips on paraphrasing, you can do a search on

Google.com to find a site such as  
[[http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r\\_paraphr.htm](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_paraphr.htm)]

**This course is only 5 weeks long, but counts for a full 3 credit hours. That means we must cover an entire semester's worth of information in just 34 days. Homework will be due nearly every day. If you cannot contribute time each day to this course, it is best to wait and take it during a regular semester.**

### **Course Schedule**

Week 1 – Dec.11-17	Chapter 1, 2, and 3
Week 2 – Dec. 18-24	Chapter 4, 5, 6, and 7
Week 3 – Dec. 25-31	<b>Exam 1</b>
Week 4 – Jan. 1-7	Chapter 8, 9, 10, and 11
Week 5 – Jan. 8-13	Chapter 12, 13, and 14; <b>Exam 2</b>

### **ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES:**

12/13 – IQ 1 and 2 & Chapter Summary 2  
12/17 – IQ & Chapter Summary 3 and 4  
12/20 – IQ & Chapter Summary 5 and 6  
12/22 – IQ & Chapter Summary 7  
**12/27 - Exam 1**  
1/2 – IQ & Chapter Summary 8 and 9  
1/5 - IQ & Chapter Summary Chapter 10 and 11  
1/8 – IQ & Chapter Summary 12 and 13  
1/10 – IQ Chapter 14 **AND paper**  
1/12 – **Exam 2**